

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, TD, XL, PLOS

SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN LOS REGIME;

UN UNIVERSITY AND THE CARIBBEAN.

1. AT HIS REQUEST PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS CALLED ON SECRETARY 2:30 P.M. JUNE 26. WILLIAMS HAD TWO PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS HE WISHED TO RAISE WITH SECRETARY:

2. CARIBBEAN LOS REGIME--WILLIAMS PROPOSES A SPECIAL LOS REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN IN WHICH THE RESOURCES OF THE AREA WOULD BE SHARED BY ALL THE COUNTRIES IN OR BORDERING ON THE CARIBBEAN. AS FIRST STEP HE WOULD LIKE A MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF ECLA. HE SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE IDEA AT THE UN DURING HIS CURRENT VISIT TO NEW YORK AND HAD GOTTEN A FAVORABLE REACTION. HIS FAVORED VENUE FOR SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE PORT OF SPAIN WITH SANTO DOMINGO AS A SECOND CHOICE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT NON-REGIONAL GOVERN-
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MENTS WITH TERRITORIES IN THE CARIBBEAN (US, UK, FRANCE,

THE NETHERLANDS) WOULD PARTICIPATE PAIRED WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TERRITORIES CONCERNED (E.G., PUERTO RICO, VIRGIN ISLANDS).

3. SECRETARY RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT IDEA OF A SEPARATE LOS REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN WAS ATTRACTIVE AND THAT HE WOULD AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO THE IDEA OF EXPLORING IT FURTHER. THERE WOULD, HOWEVER, BE A PROBLEM IF THE PROPOSAL WERE FOR THE CREATION OF AN ARCHIPELAGO WHICH CONTROLLED SHIPPING. WILLIAMS MADE IT CLEAR THAT HIS PROPOSAL DID NOT IN ANY WAY INVOLVE THE FREE NAVIGATION OF THE CARIBBEAN.

4. UNITED NATIONS--UN UNIVERSITY AND THE CARIBBEAN-- WILLIAMS, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN THE US FOR MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (HE IS A COUNCIL MEMBER), HAS PROPOSED THAT THE RECTOR AND COUNCIL OF THE UN UNIVERSITY MEET WITH THE RECTORS AND FACULTY DEANS OF THE UNIVERSITIES OF THE CARIBBEAN TO DISCUSS FUTURE ASSOCIATION. HE SAID THAT PUERTO RICO SHOULD OBVIOUSLY BE REPRESENTED AT SUCH A MEETING BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE AND SIZE OF ITS UNIVERSITY. HE HAS PROPOSED THAT SUCH A MEETING BE HELD UNDER ECLA SPONSORSHIP IN PORT OF SPAIN IN DECEMBER. SECRETARY RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE AN INVITATION BEING TENDERED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO AND THAT WE COULD SUPPORT SUCH A MEETING. INGERSOLL

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